

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to comply better with US rules. Claim 10 has been canceled and replaced with new claim 15. Claim 16 corresponds to original claims 1 and 9. Claim 17 and 18 correspond to original claims 4 and 5, respectively.. No new matter has been added.

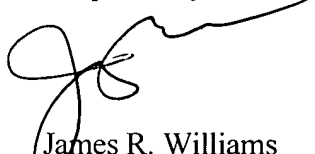
The claims include three independent claims and 17 total claims. No additional fees are due

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the amended specification and claims conform to standard U.S. practice, and are now in condition for allowance. Applicants request consideration and allowance of pending claims 1-14.

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tel: 412-429-1800, x-6918  
fax: 412-276-7252  
email: jrwlaw@adelphia.net  
website: www.williams-patent.com

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Williams  
Reg. No. 43,268  
Attorney for Applicant  
Vesuvius USA Corporation  
250 Parkwest Drive  
Pittsburgh, PA 15275